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Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

On 04/01/02

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Judith Lane

PATENT  
Docket No.: 02307E-092710US  
4/23/02



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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

ZUKER *et al.*

Application No.: 09/492,029

Filed: January 26, 2000

For: ASSAYS FOR SENSORY  
MODULATORS USING A SENSORY  
CELL SPECIFIC G-PROTEIN BETA  
SUBUNIT

Examiner: Manjunath Rao, Ph.D.

Art Unit: 1652

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed October 2, 2001, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks. A petition to extend the period of response for three months, from January 2, 2002, to April 2, 2002, is enclosed.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1 and 20 as follows.

B1

1. (once amended) A method for identifying a compound that modulates taste signaling in taste cells, the method comprising the steps of: